



## STATE OF WASHINGTON

# **PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**

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TO: Members, Public Disclosure Commission

FROM: Doug Ellis  
Director of Public Outreach

DATE: March 18, 2003

SUBJECT: Possible Rule Amendments re Pledges and Political Advertising

The following preliminary rule amendments address the issues of primary election pledges, payment of pledges and sponsor identification of broadcast advertising. The changes clarify the disclosure requirements and provide guidance to candidates and political committees.

### **WAC 390-16-245 Pledges**

The draft language to this rule would allow pledges to be made and redeemed after the date of the primary election in accordance with RCW 42.17.640(1) and WAC 390-17-302. You may recall that the legislature, in 2001, amended state law to allow state office candidates who lost in the primary election to accept primary-related contributions up to thirty days after the election to pay debts outstanding as of the date of the primary.

The proposed draft language to WAC 390-16-245 (see attached) would conform to the statutory changes in RCW 42.17.640(1) and treat the redemption of pledges in the same manner as standard monetary contributions received by a candidate or political committee.

### **WAC 390-18-010 Political advertising – Identification of sponsor**

The draft language would remove the requirement that broadcast political advertising conform to the requirements of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and clarify the sponsor identification requirements for political advertisement undertaken as an independent expenditure. The current requirement under RCW 42.17.510(3)(d) that the sponsor identification be “clearly spoken on any broadcast advertisement” is repeated in the rule for emphasis.

Reference to independent expenditure advertising is included to remind sponsors of their statutory requirements when they engage in this type of advertising.

### **Action by the Commission**

At this point, staff is requesting the Commission approve language for these rules. If approved, staff will file the CR 102 Proposed Rule-Making notice with the Code Reviser’s Office and a public hearing will be scheduled.